

Julia Biłat Bio

Julia Biłat is a classically trained cellist, improviser and composer, who graduated in classical music studies from UMFC in Warsaw. Since 2014, she has been living in Berlin, where she regularly performs and participates in various music and performance projects. She is dedicated to her exploratory, genre-defying creative practice at the intersection of improvisation, composition, and performance. She challenges the norms of the typical concert form and is interested in more direct contact with the audience. Many of Biłat's works expose the anthropomorphic qualities of the cello, often placing the instrument in new, thought-provoking contexts combined with improvisation using the body, voice, and space.

She has performed in many concert halls and festivals in Germany, such as the Elbphilharmonie, Berlin Philharmonie, Konzerthaus, Hamburger Bahnhof Berlin, Fusion Festival, Gropius Bau, Radialsystem, Neuköllner Oper Berlin, and Schloss Elmau. She has collaborated with many great musicians and performance artists, including Greg Cohen, Leon Parker, Julia Hülsmann, Noam Sivan, Naama Tsabar, Ana Prvački, David Fernandez, Tristan Braun, Stefano Taiuti, and Ulrike Schwab.

Since 2018, Biłat has been a member of Stegreif, the Improvising Symphony Orchestra, which explores the possibilities of improvisation within a symphony orchestra and revolutionizes the image of a classical music ensemble.

Julia Biłat has been regularly commissioned to write music for the Stegreif Orchestra, develop improvisation concepts, and lead several productions, such as "Moon Music I: Abschied" at the Neuköllner Oper Berlin and "#Bechange: Feeling," which was premiered in July 2022 at the Kissinger Sommer Festival in Bad Kissingen, Germany.

In addition to performing as an improvising and classical cellist, Julia trains in Butoh dance, which deeply inspires her work on holistic and radical improvisation, placing the transformative quality of the body and its impact on the sound produced at the center of her interests.